

occasions from an old oak in parkland, but up the hillside.

\**Lymexylon navalae* (Linn.). A single gravid female taken on the wing, 5.viii.1975. The insect was observed for several minutes as it flew up and down and about one foot away from the long-ago debarked section of one of the oaks growing at the parkland/woodland boundary. It may seem odd that such a conspicuous insect as *navalae* has remained undetected in this quite well worked area. However, I would suggest that it is not a recent arrival, thus endorsing Allen's (1966, *Ent Rec.*, 78: 79-80) views on ancient forest relict species. What is more likely is that the beetle frequents the woodland area of the Park where conditions would be more favourable—much dead timber in a shaded environment. Other factors that should not be discounted are (i) that the beetle has a relatively short flight period, and is more often on the wing toward the evening, and (ii) that the wooded area of the Park has a dense undergrowth of bracken, some of it reaching to (my) head height, i.e. 6 ft., the ground is very uneven and the whole wooded part situated on a very steep slope. Combine this with the fact that most of the Moccas "specialities" appear earlier in the season than *navalae*, and are to be found in the parkland (which incidentally is nearer the road), it is apparent that the visitor would have no reason, other than curiosity, to venture into the wilderness. This is especially true if time is limited, for example a single day trip to the area. I have detected no sign of the characteristic emergence holes in any parkland oak, indicating the insects presence (as they do for example in Denny Wood, New Forest). In the woodland area with its dense canopy, such burrows may also easily escape notice.

\**Henoticus serratus* (Gyllenhal). One specimen, 25.v.1975 (S. Morris), beaten from oak.

*Abdera quadrifasciata* (Curtis). A single specimen, under bark of an oak log, 2.viii.1975.

*Eledona agricola* (Herbst) is not recorded by Brendell (1974, *Royal Ent. Soc. Handbook Identification Brit. Insects: V.* (10) Tenebrionidae), from Herefordshire. Very common in an unidentified bracket-like fungus growing on oak trunks, 26.vi.1975. I have also seen specimens dating from the 1930's and 40's (R. W. Lloyd and others).

I would like to offer my most sincere thanks to Mr. and Mrs. L. Slaney for granting access to the Park on behalf of the owner Mr. R. T. G. Chester-Master, and for their general help and kindness. To Mr. P. J. Osborne for the loan of an authentic *Plectrophloeus nitidus* from his own collection, captured in Blenheim Park, and for identifying *Batrisodes venustus*.

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HYLES GALLII ROTT. AT PURLEY, SURREY IN 1976. — On the morning of the 22nd August there was a specimen of the Bedstraw Hawkmoth here in my light trap. The moth, which was in fine condition, arrived during a night that was cool with a clear sky. — P. M. STIRLING, 83 Grasmere Road, Purley, Surrey, CR2 1DZ.